



FORESTRY, FIRE & STATE LANDS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Cover Sheet



Project Title	<i>Examination of diking effects on avian brood survival, dispersal and habitat selection at Great Salt Lake: progressing toward remediation</i>		
Lead Project Sponsor	Weber State University		
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Project Description / Abstract	<p>The conservation of avian populations at Great Salt Lake (GSL) depends on the identification and protection of habitat conditions that sustain healthy populations of coexisting species. Basic breeding biology information is needed to estimate population health and predict the tolerance or vulnerability of species to habitat changes and land management. Unfortunately, this information is lacking for most breeding species at GSL. Habitat suitability and breeding population health are best assayed by assessing breeding productivity. It is not sufficient to simply characterize avian habitat. This information must be paired with information on breeding success and survival. This proposed project will build on the data set currently being collected by examining how brood survival, dispersal and nest site selection are influenced by diking at Great Salt Lake. However, most importantly this proposed project will begin examining techniques to reduce the impacts of dikes on breeding aquatic bird populations. Specifically, this project will - 1) estimate survival of shorebird broods from hatching until fledging using radio telemetry at both diked and undiked wetlands, 2) determine dispersal patterns of these species at diked and undiked wetlands 3) determine vegetation characteristics selected as brood foraging sites, 4) allow for identification and characterization of nest sites placed on dikes and comparison to randomly selected non-use sites and 5) identification of dike characteristics that reduce the attractiveness to breeding aquatic birds.</p>		
Project Funding			
	Amount Requested \$ 75,000	Matching Funds \$ 90,708 ¹ \$83, 335 have already been committed and expended	Total Project Cost \$ 165,708